

**Large Heath Butterfly *Coenonympha tullia* Müll. (Lep.: Satyridae):  
Appeal for information**

I am carrying out a study on the decline of the Large Heath Butterfly *C. tullia* Müller, in England. Its present status is far from certain, but it is known that many sites have been lost to agriculture, afforestation, draining and peat extraction, during the last decade alone.

I am seeking data regarding sites, no matter how well known, number of specimens seen, site area, site altitude, any threat either direct or indirect which may affect any colony. Information from data labels in collections, photographic or notebook records, in fact any data from any date period whatsoever, would be most welcome.

I intend to contact museums holding collections of this species, to extract any data which may be available. This will give me historical records, but current information is in very short supply. All information will be treated in confidence where this is requested.

At the present time I would estimate that Northumberland has 75% of all the colonies in England. I have just completed a second year of a five-year study of this species in this county, and I have located it on 116 separate sites. I anticipate that there are at least another 100 colonies awaiting detection. The rest of England is less fortunate, and it may not be long before many of the more southern sites lose their resident populations.

Should you have any queries or reservations regarding my appeal for information, please do not hesitate to contact me.— HARRY T. EALES, 11 Ennerdale Terrace, Low Westwood, Derwentside, Co. Durham NE17 7PN.

**On the name *Typhoeus* (Col.: Geotrupidae)**

This familiar name having given rise to some confusion and vagaries of spelling, a few words on the subject may not be out of place. Firstly, the Linnaean version (1758) is fortunately correct and stands today as the trivial name of the species. Not so that of Leach (1815) who made the name generic while perversely altering the *o* to an *a* without the least need, in consequence of which the species is saddled with the rather awkward binomen *Typhaeus typhoeus* (L.). Leach's action here is a good example of the fallacy remarked upon earlier by me (*Ent. Rec.* **108**: 38) of supposing that the diphthongs *ae*, *oe*, are freely interchangeable.

However, the matter is not quite as simple as that, for the actual diphthong in *Typhoeus* is not the *oe* but the *eu*, which happens here to be preceded by the letter *omega*, or long "o". In Greek mythology it was the name of the giant whom Zeus struck with lightning and (for good measure) buried under Mount Etna, and literally means "the smoker". The *-eus* is the same as that in Zeus, Odysseus, Perseus, Theseus etc.; correctly, therefore, *Typhoeus* rhymes with "no use" and not with "see us".— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.